

S-344  
Covington House  
Princess Anne vicinity  
private

c. 1790, c. 1860

North of Princess Anne on the east side of the old Princess Anne-Upper Trappe road is the Covington house, a three-part stepped dwelling significant for its unusual form and late eighteenth-century rear section. The main two sections of the house were built during the third quarter of the nineteenth century in two principal stages. The two-story main house was enlarged shortly after construction by a two-story shed-roofed addition that contained the principal stair. The center section also appears to date to the middle years of the nineteenth century. However, tilted false-plate construction and remnants of a wood pinned roof distinguish the single-story third section, which probably dates to the late eighteenth century.

The specific builder of the eighteenth-century one-room plan frame house has not been determined. Construction of the larger two sections is estimated at 1860-1870 during Charles T. Marshall's ownership of the property. Marshall purchased eighty-six acres in August of 1861 for \$4,000 (LW 7/167) and sold fifty-six acres in 1865 for \$5,000 (LW 8/636). The decreased acreage and the increase in property transfer suggests capital improvements on the farm. The architectural features of the house agree with the estimated date of construction.

After a settlement of the chancery court, the fifty-six acre property, referred to as "Pink Eye" in the 1874 deed, was purchased by John E. Covington and his wife, Mary E. Covington. The farm remained in Covington hands for a large part of the following seventy-five years.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. S-344

Magi No. 2003445504

DOE \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Covington House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number East side of Md. 529 (North Somerset Avenue) \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Princess Anne ☒ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Leslie and Nancy Brimer

street & number Rt. 1 Box 19 telephone no.: 651-3419

city, town Princess Anne state and zip code MD. 21853

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset Clerk of Court liber

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio

city, town Princess Anne state Md. 21853

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved      date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Covington house stands on the east side of MD 529 (North Somerset Avenue extended) near Princess Anne, Somerset County, Maryland. The two-story two-bay by three house faces west with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Built in three stages, the weatherboard frame house is supported by a minimal brick foundation, and is covered by a pitched asphalt shingle roof. Attached to the back of the house is the oldest section, a single-story one-room plan structure held together with wrought-nails. It also has a tilted plate roof system.

The front (west) elevation is two-bay elevation framed by paneled pilasters. The gable end elevation follows an asymmetrical profile with a shed roof extending from the main gable roof. A four-panel, heavily molded door fills the south bay, and a six over six sash window marks the north bay. The entrance bay is covered by a turned post front porch, decorated with fan-shaped corner brackets. A turned baluster handrail stretches between each post. The second floor is pierced by two unevenly spaced six over six sash windows, and a smaller six over six sash window lights the attic. The eave is finished with a molded baseboard.

The south side of the main house is three bays across, and it is covered on the first floor by the shed roof, turned-post porch. The east end bay of the porch is enclosed and lighted by a six over six sash window. The second floor is marked by three unevenly spaced six over six sash, and the boxed cornice is trimmed with mid nineteenth-century bed and crown moldings. Rising from the center of the house is a brick chimney with a dentiled cap.

The north side of the main house is a symmetrical elevation with two six over six sash windows lighting each floor. The boxed cornice carries the same mid nineteenth-century moldings.

The east end of the house is partially covered by a shorter two-story, one-bay section which is covered by a medium sloped asphalt shingle roof and sheathed by weatherboard siding. The eave is finished with a plain boxed cornice, and the gable end is flush. A single-story, shed addition is attached to the south side, and both floors are lighted by six over six sash windows. Attached to the east end is the old kitchen, a single-story one-room plan section covered by a very steep asphalt shingle roof. A screened-in porch covers the south side of the old kitchen and a six over one sash window with an ovola-molded surround. The east end of the old kitchen has a door opening on the first floor, and a six over six sash window lights the loft.

## 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Covington house is a three-part "telescope" dwelling significant for its surviving single-story eighteenth-century structure. Tilted false plate construction and remnants of wood pin roof distinguish the eighteenth-century section. The main house has remained largely intact with mid nineteenth-century woodwork. The side hall, double pile floor plan of the main house was accomplished in two stages with the stair hall included under a two-story shed roofed addition.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. S-344

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name Princess AnneQuadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Touart - Architectural Historianorganization Somerset County Historical Trust date 1/7/86street & number 424 N. Somerset Avenue telephone 651-0077city or town Princess Anne state MD. 21853

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

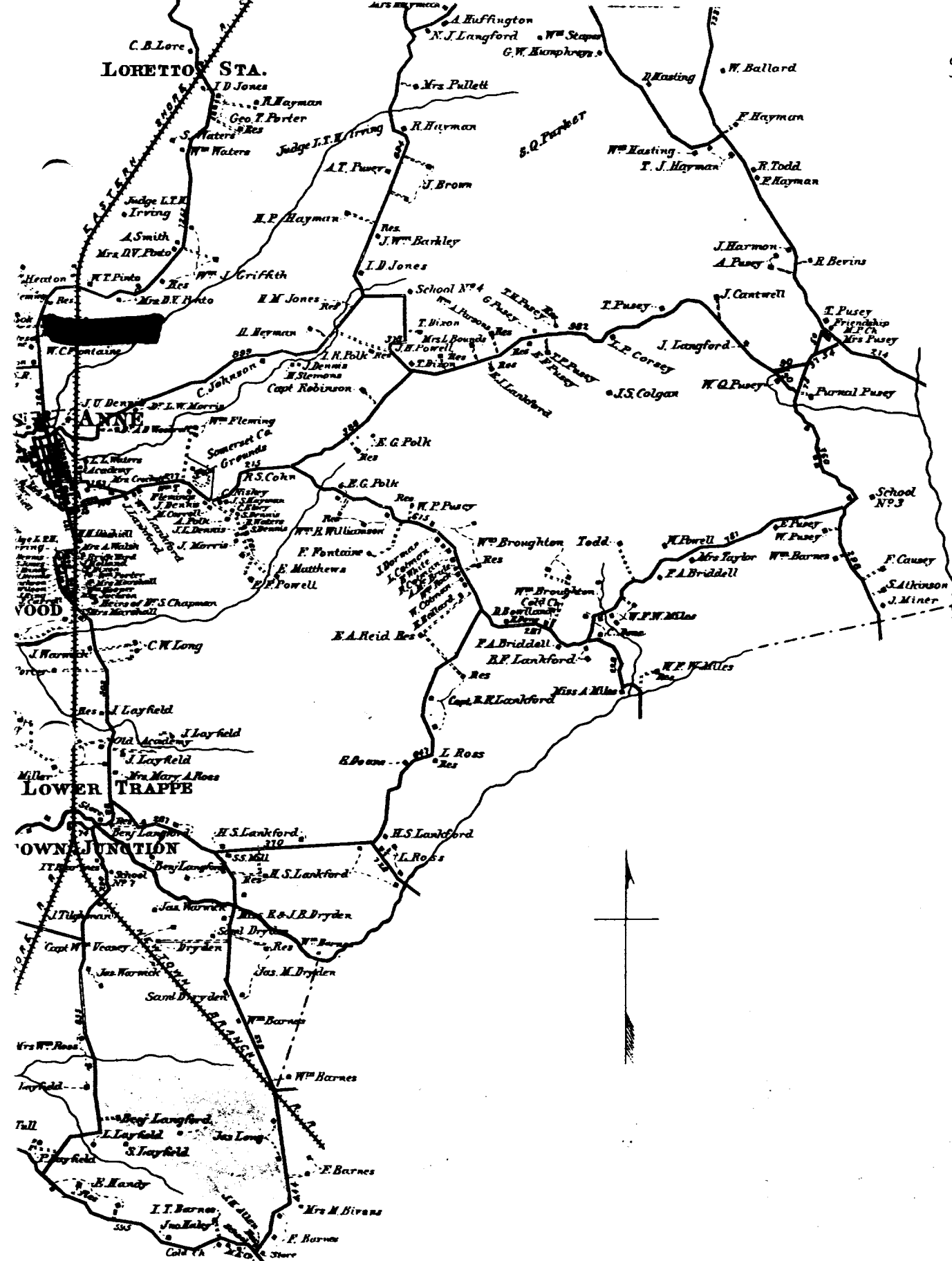
return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

## DESCRIPTION CONTINUED

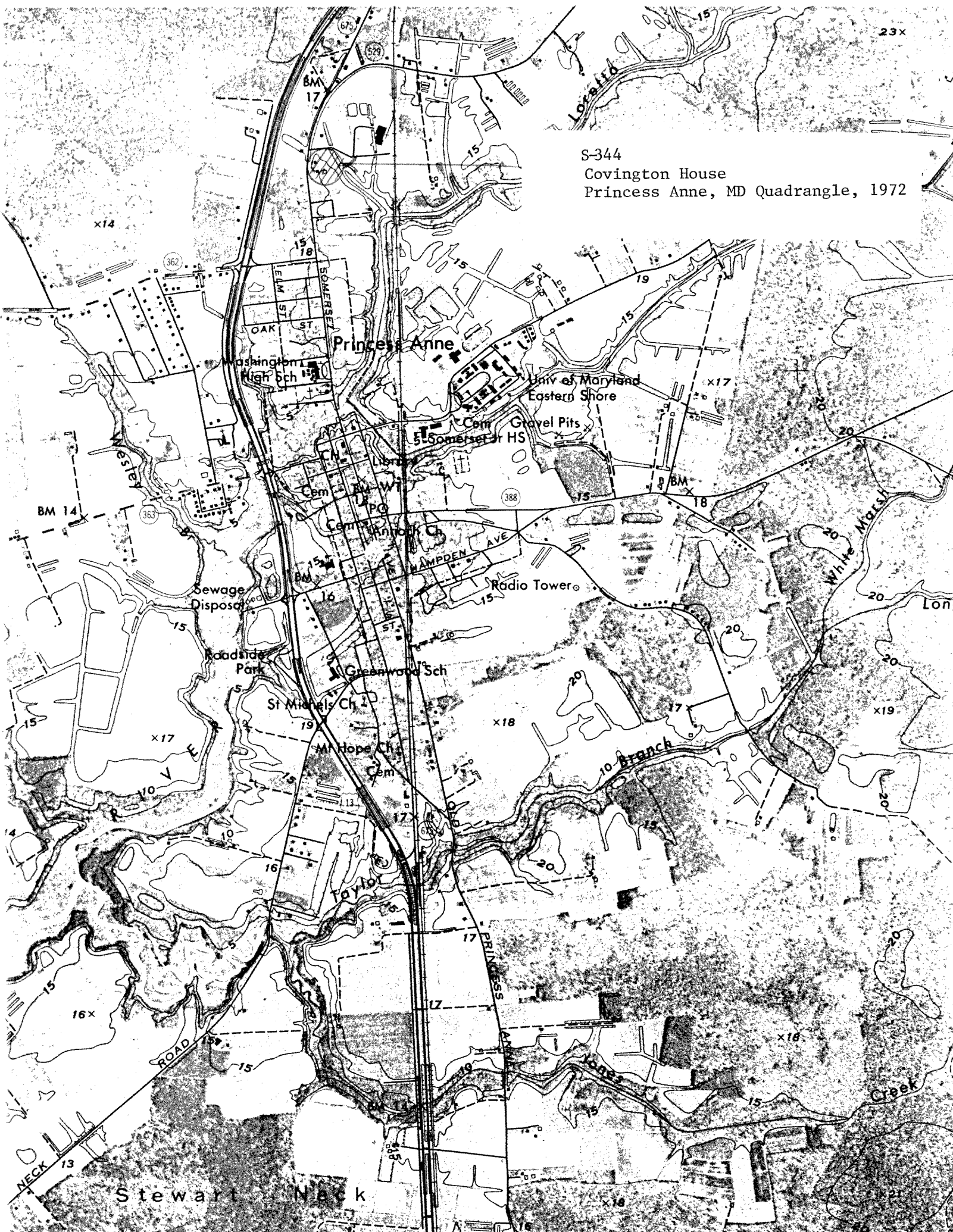
The interior of the main house is finished with mid to late nineteenth century woodwork. The stair, located in the southeast corner of the shed roofed section, is distinguished by a heavily turned newel post, turned balusters, and a molded handrail. Bold scrolled trim finishes the stringer. Four-panel doors open into the two rooms north of the hall which are also finished with mid nineteenth-century trim. The two hearths are framed by plain post and lintel mantels. A scar in the ceiling of the east room indicates the former location of the stair.

The middle section has been converted to a modern kitchen, while the old kitchen is now used as storage space. A beaded board partition separates a hall from the utility/ storage space. Fixed in the southwest corner is a winder stair that rises to the unfinished loft. Exposed within the stair space is the tilted false plate construction. The roof structure is also noted for its nailers which survive with the ends of wood pins that were used to fasten a former layer of shingles. The gable end studs are fixed by wrought nails, and the collar beams have been removed.

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Covington House  
Princess Anne, MD Quadrangle, 1972





Covington House

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Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset Co., MD

South elevation

11/85, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg./MD Hist. Trust



Covington House S-344  
Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset Co., MD  
West Elevation  
11/85, Paul Touart, Photographer  
Neg./Md Hist. Trust



Covington House

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Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset Co., MD

Northwest Elevation

11/85, Paul Touart, photographer

Neg./Md Hist. Trust



Covington House

S-344

Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset Co., Md

Old Kitchen Window

11/85, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg./MD Hist. Trust